

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 through 5 and 11 through 21 under 35 USC 103(a). In view of the above changes in the claims, Applicant believes this rejection should be withdrawn for the following reasons:

Original Claims

Claims 2, 14, and 21 have been re-written in independent form, original Claims 1, 11, and 19 have been cancelled, and the dependency of Claims 2, 4, 5, 12, 13, and 20. Each of these claims calls for the business card holders to be "...manufactured from a web of sheet material using a rotary die to form said holder by continuously feeding the sheet material through said die." In the parent application, now U. S. Patent No. 6,401,372, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences gave weight to this limitation and allowed the claims.

New Claims

New Claims 22 and 23 are directed to a "...card storage and retrieval system, including a guide member..." There are a "...**plurality of business card holders** stacked next to each other in a row side by side **along the guide member..**" Each business card holder is "...**sized** to mount thereon only **a single business card per holder** ..." Each business card holder comprises a **substantially rectangular thin sheet** having a lower edge and **outside dimensions greater than the dimensions** of the single business card to be attached to an individual business card holder..." There are "...a plurality of **slits** in said thin sheet

cut at an angle with respect to said lower edge and positioned so that at least some corners of the business card to be mounted thereon may be manually inserted into the slits..." This structure enables a business card to be attached to and detached from an individual business card holder. Lastly, there is "...at least one mounting cutout therein along the lower edge enabling each individual business card holder to be detachably mounted to said guide member." As Claim 23 states "... the angle of each of the slits is substantially 45 degrees with respect to the lower edge."

With respect to new Claims 22 and 23, the only prior art references that teach a business card on holder adapted to mount a single business card per holder are Ristuccia, Sr. (Design) and Ristuccia, Sr. (Utility). Neither of these references teach using "...a plurality of slits in said thin sheet cut at an angle with respect to said lower edge and positioned so that at least some corners of the business card to be mounted thereon may be manually inserted into the slits..."

The prior art references that teach employing an angular slit, Roberts, Goldman, and McCabe, are in non-analogous art. Storing photographs in an album on large sheets capable of holding multiple photographs or cards on a sheet defeat the purpose of Applicant's invention where calling for "...a single business card per holder..." These holders are "... stacked next to each other in a row side by side along the guide member..." to facilitate placing an individual business card in an individual holder.

In view of the above changes, the application is deemed to be in a condition for allowance and such action is solicited.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would advance the allowance of this application, Applicant's attorney requests the Examiner call to arrange a date and time for such interview after having an opportunity to review the above amendments and consider the above remarks.

EXTENSION OF TIME

A three (3) month extension to reply to the last Office Action is requested as indicated below.

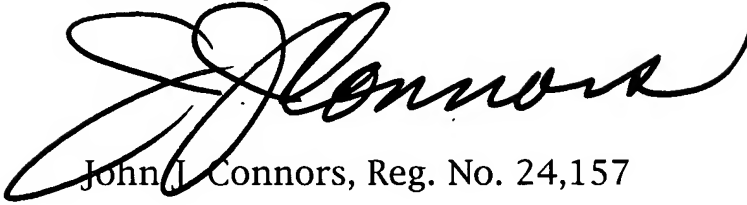
EXTRA FEE

Any additional fees should be charged to Applicant's attorney deposit account as indicated below.

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Please note Applicant's attorney Customer No. 021905, and confirm that this customer number has been entered in the U. S. Patent & Trademark Office records in connection with the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Connors", with a large, stylized initial "J" that loops around the first part of the name.

John I. Connors, Reg. No. 24,157

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